

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:221
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
ISSUANCE OF PASSPORT THROUGH INTERNET
Shivanna Shri M;Sippiparai Shri A. Ravichandran

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has made arrangements for the issuance of passports through internet;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the regional passport offices where the passports are currently available online;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to hand over passport issuance work to outsourcing agencies; and
- (e) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) to (c) No, Sir. With a view to minimising waiting time at the counters for submission of applications, the Government has initially provided the facility of registration of personal particulars by applicants through the internet at select passport offices viz. Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Lucknow, Mumbai and Trivandrum. After on-line registration, the applicant is given a date and time slot for submission of the application at the passport office at a designated counter. In case the applicant is unable to submit the application on the specified date, he or she will also have the option to do so at a general counter on a subsequent date.

(d)&(e) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government at this juncture to outsource passport issuance work.